

Blessed ARE THE PEACEMAKERS

MATTHEW 5:9



Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

February 1, 2026 at 10:00 a.m.

Welcome to people new to this church or faith, long time Lutherans, and Christians from every tradition. Welcome to all who have no church home, want to follow Christ, have doubts, or do not believe. Welcome to new visitors and old friends. Welcome to people of every age and size, color and culture, sexual orientation and marital status, ability and challenge. Welcome to believers and questioners and questioning believers. This is a place where you are welcome to celebrate and sorrow, rejoice and recover. This is a place where lives are made new. Welcome on this day.

Music “Jesus on the Mountain Peak” Mark Sedio 1954

The Gathering

Call to Worship

“Come to the Water of Life” Blue #955

1. All who are thirsty for mercy,
all who are thirsty for love;
All who are thirsty for love, for mercy, come:
Come to the Water of life.
2. All who are thirsty for healing,
all who are thirsty for touch;
All who are thirsty for touch, for healing, come:
Come to the Water of life.
3. All who are thirsty for beauty,
all who are thirsty for truth;
All who are thirsty for truth, for beauty, come:
Come to the Water of life.
4. All who are thirsty for justice,
all who are thirsty for peace;
All who are thirsty for peace, for justice, come:
Come to the Water of life.

*Confession and Forgiveness

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism,
as the presiding minister begins*

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
Our creator,
Our protector
Our wellspring of life.

C: Amen.

P: Trusting that God receives our words and the meditations of
our hearts, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection

P: Merciful God,

**C: you speak blessing and compassion into the world.
Forgive us for the ways we act
With judgment, cruelty, or indifference.
We ignore the needs of our neighbors;
We resist your call to oppose injustice;
We give in to scarcity and fear;
We assume the worst about one another.
Cleanse us from our faults
And release us from their grasp.
Show us your loving kindness.
Restore our heart and repair your world,
That we may live in Christ's ways.
Amen.**

P: God proclaims these words of assurance;
“Do not fear, for I have redeemed you.
I have called you by name. You are mine.”
In † Christ, you are forgiven.
In the Spirit, you are made free.
Refreshed by the waters of mercy,
Live anew as beloved children of God.

C: Amen

*Opening Hymn

“Build a Longer Table” ACS #1062

*Build a longer table, not a higher wall,
Feeding those who hunger, making room for all.
Feasting together, stranger turns to friend,
Christ breaks walls to pieces;
False divisions end.*

*Build a safer refuge, not a larger jail;
Where the weak find shelter, mercy will not fail.
For any place where justice is denied,
Christ will breach the jail wall, freeing all inside.*

*Build a broader doorway, not a longer fence.
Love protects all people, sparing no expense.
When we embrace compassion more than fear,
Christ tears down our fences; all are welcome here.*

*When we lived as exiles, refugees abroad,
Christ became our doorway to the reign of God.
So must our tables welcome those who roam.
None can be excluded; all must find a home.*

*Greeting

***P:** The grace of our Light and Friend Jesus Christ, the love of God our Creator, and the blessing of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

***Kyrie** (Here we offer up all our cries for God's help)

1. Kyrie eleison. Kyrie eleison.
2. Christe eleison. Christe eleison.
3. Kyrie eleison. Kyrie eleison.

Kyrie 18

The musical score consists of two staves of music in common time, key signature of one flat. The top staff is for the soprano voice, and the bottom staff is for the bassoon. The lyrics are written below the notes in French: "Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son, Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son." The bassoon part features sustained notes and grace notes.

Music: Jacques Berthier
© 1998, Les Presses du Saint-Esprit Publications, Inc., Agence

Glory to God

WOV #607

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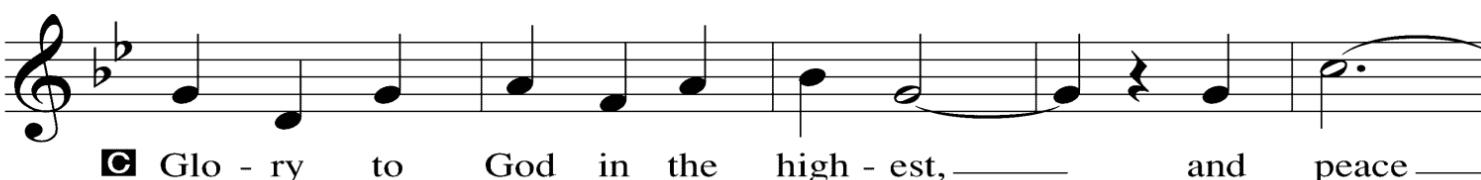
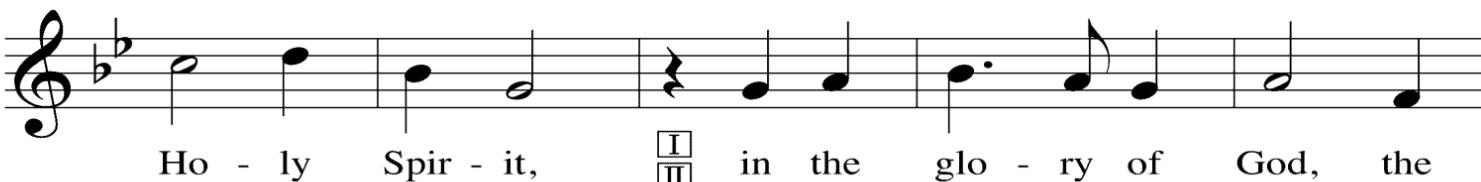
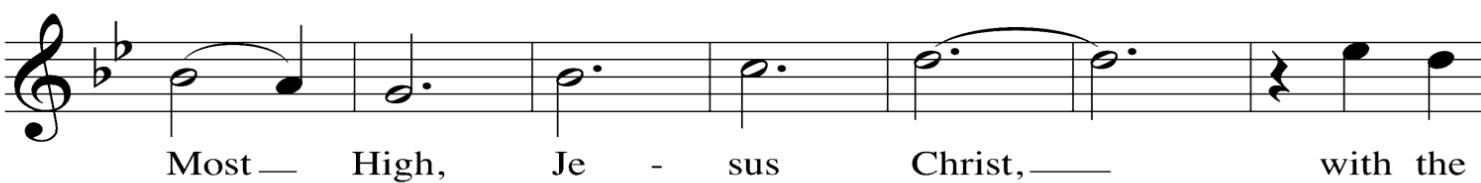
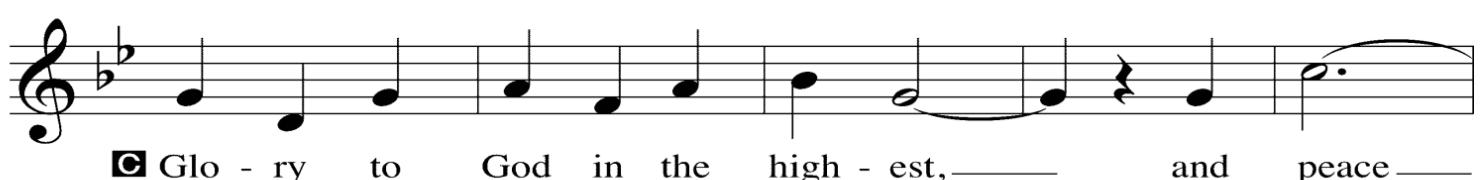
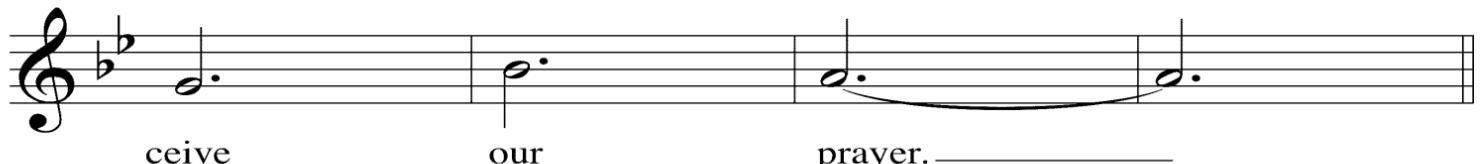
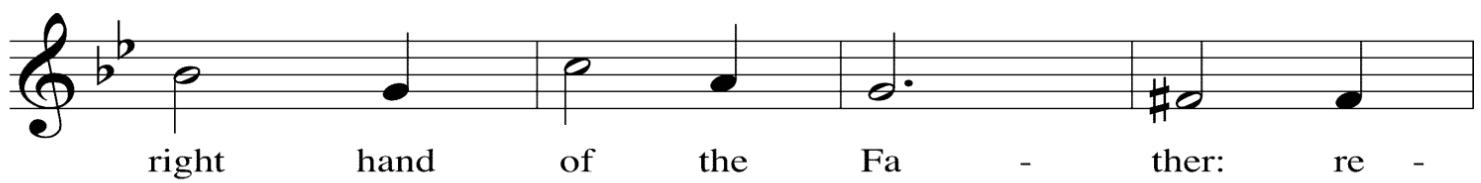
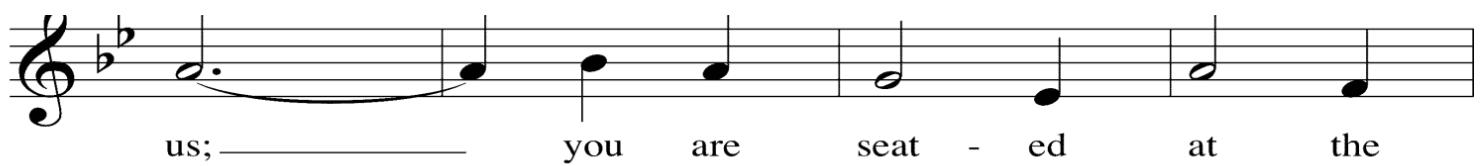
Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to God's people on earth!

Lord God, heavenly King, almighty
God and Father, we worship you, we
give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's
people on earth!

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the
Father, Lord God,

Lamb of God, you take away the
sin of the world: have mercy on



*Prayer of the Day

Celebrate insert pg. 1

P: May God be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us Pray...

C: (following the prayer) Amen.

The Word of God

First Reading

Micah 6:1-8

Celebrate pg. 1

L: Word of God. Word of Life

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm

Psalm 15

Choir & Cong.

Celebrate pg. 2

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 1:18-34

Celebrate pg. 2

L: Word of God. Word of Life

C: Thanks be to God.

ALLELUIA

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

*Gospel Acclamation

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mathew the 5th Chapter
C: Glory to you O God.

*Gospel Reading Matthew 5:1-12 Celebrate pg. 3

P: The Gospel of the Lord.
C: **Thanks be to God**

Sermon Rev. James P. Lapp

*Hymn of the Day “Look Who Gathers at Christ’s Table”
blue #977

Look who gathers at Christ’s table!
Hear the stories that they bring.
Some are weeping; Some are laughing;
Some have songs they want to sing.
Others ask why they’re invited,
Burdened by the wrong they’ve done.
Christ insists they all are welcome.
There is room for ev’ry one.

Clouds of light surround the table;
Ancient followers appear,
saints confessing how they wrestled
with their guilt, their doubt and fear.
Peter tells of his denying
Christ was ever in his sight;
Paul relates his fruitless efforts
to obliterate the light.

(hymn continued)

Their sad stories are repeated
in a thousand different ways,
But they share one thing in common;
They all end in thanks and praise
for the host who has invited
north and south and east and west
to converge around this table,
Where all life is fed and blest.

Bring your joy and bring your sadness,
and prepare to be surprised
by the host whose hands are wounded,
who will open wide your eyes
when he blesses bread and breaks it—
truth and manna from above! ~
and then passes wine that wakens
in your heart the taste of love.

*The Prayers of the Church

Celebrate, Page 4

*Passing of the Peace

P: May the peace of God be with you always.
C: And also with you.

The Communion Meal

Offering— We honor and worship God by returning some
of the gifts with which we have been blessed.

Offering Hymn “This Little Light of Mine” Red #677

This little light of mine, I’m goin’~a let it shine;
This little light of mine, I’m goin’~a let it shine;

This little light of mine, I'm goin'~a let it shine;
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Ev'rywhere I go, I'm goin'~a let it shine;
Ev'rywhere I go, I'm goin'~a let it shine;
Ev'rywhere I go, I'm goin'~a let it shine;
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Jesus gave it to me, I'm goin'~a let it shine;
Jesus gave it to me, I'm goin'~a let it shine;
Jesus gave it to me, I'm goin'~a let it shine;
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Music “Blest Are They” David Hass

*Offering Prayer

P: God of grace, your love reaches to the heavens,
And your abundance to the depths of the seas.
Bless what we offer to your service;
Our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts.
Let us overflow with gratitude and generosity,
Now and always.

C: Amen.

*Great Thanksgiving

P: May God be with you.
C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.
C: We lift them up to God.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Eucharistic Prayer

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy.....

*Words of Institution

*Lord's Prayer

**C: Our Father, in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today, our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
Now and forever. Amen**

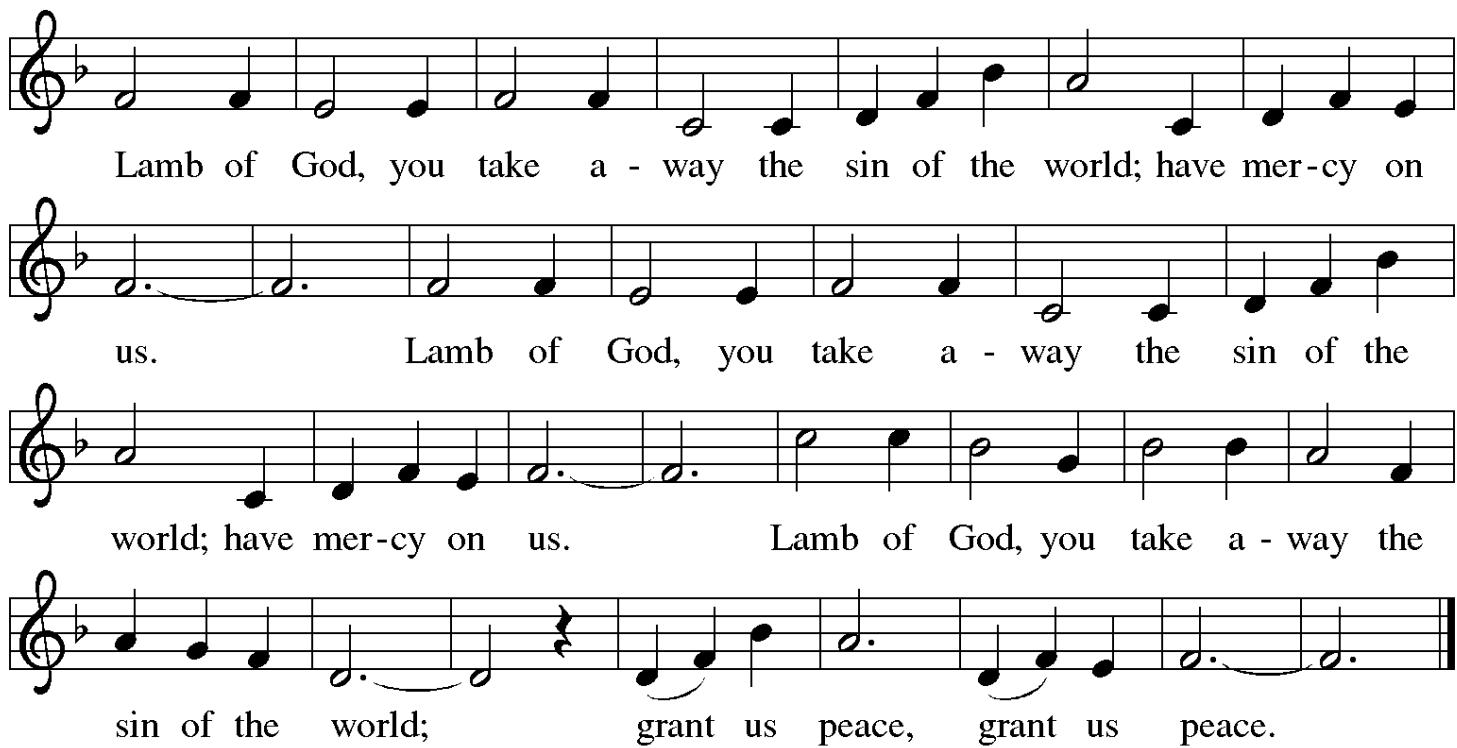
Invitation to Communion

P: The joy of the Lord is our strength.
Come eat this meal of gladness.

Holy Communion

Visitors: You are welcome to come forward to receive Communion as part of this church family! Children are welcome to come and receive a special blessing if they have never communed. Communion is by intinction, we dip the bread into either the wine (red) or grape juice (white).

Lamb of God



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

Hymn "What Does the Lord Require of You?" Red #1057

1. What does the Lord require of you? (repeat)
2. Justice, kindness, walk humbly with your God.
3. To seek justice and love kindness and walk humbly with your God.

*Communion Blessing

P: May this Holy Communion of our Light, Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in God's grace now and forever.

C: Amen.

*Prayer after Communion

P: Nourishing God,

At this table you have refreshed us
With holy gifts of food and drink.
Strengthen us for service,

And send us out to embody your good news
Of liberation and healing for the sake of the world.
In the name of Christ we pray,

C: Amen

The Sending

*Blessing

P: The Spirit of the triune God † Bless you with joy,
Anoint you with compassion, And send you in love.

C: Amen

*Closing Hymn

“Rise Up, O Saints of God!” Red #669

Rise up, O saints of God! From vain ambitions turn;
Christ rose triumphant that your hearts
with nobler zeal might burn.

Speak out, O saints of God!
Despair engulfs earth’s frame;
As heirs of God’s baptismal grace,
The word of hope proclaim.

Rise up, O saints of God!
The kingdom’s task embrace;

Redress sin's cruel consequence;
Give justice larger place.

Give heed, O saints of God! Creation cries in pain;
Stretch forth your hand of healing now,
With love the weak sustain.

Commit your hearts to seek
the paths which Christ has trod;
And, quickened by the Spirit's pow'r,
rise up, O saints of God!

*Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Be the light of Christ.

C: Thanks be to God.



Sign up for Altar Flowers & Easter Lilies

Serving Today

Reader: Elke Spires

Altar Guild: Candace Anderson

Coffee Host :

Office Help: Sheila Buswell & Sherilyn Jager

* Sign up to Read, Host Coffee & Dedicate Altar Flowers *



SHORT TERM

Corbin, Dorothy Ronning, Bob Holzwarth, Amanda, Kathy Brooks, Mary Robe & Family, Renee, Family of Laura Gates, Sina & Bella, Katie's family, Chad Fields, Laura, Ayla, Tate & Terry, Beth Stiles, Margaret Schraft, Laura & twin babies, James, Don & Taiyo, Gary & Connie Stevenson, Family of Bobbie Erickson, Kevin, Cheryl & David Craig, Beth, Liz, Joan Wilson Family, Sam, Florence, Tom Williams, Tim Oldfield, Kathy M., Nancy, Jennifer Linkeon, Corrine & Daniel, Connie Garcia & Family, Family & friends of Rev. Jim Carr, Grey, Levi, James, Galahad, Debbie, Sam, Nate Barker, Robbin, Keith, Noelle, Ensley, Middle East Peace, Tom Dawson, Dustin, Father Jack Davis, Adolfo, Elida, Jeannie, Anetta, Jane, Barbara Allen, Gary & Marjie Toops, Rachel B., Anne & Chloe Johnston, Isaac & Marissa, Mateo & Lina, Atlas, Sal, Katarina.

LONG TERM Those suffering with Mental Illness, James Sheehan, Biergiel—Colclough family, Eric Utto-Galarneau, Beth UG, Brian Utto, Kathy Brooks, Joel Hurtgamm, Dawit and family (Ethiopia), Miller, April, Aaron Johnson, Shelby, Ashley, Frank, Joe, Lisa & Beau, Linda Johnson, Jan Shadle, Vi Olly, Mike, Susan Anderson, Brouse Family, Janet Baker, Sandy Godvine, Janelle Yung, Karin, Will, Chris & John B., Immigrant families, The Homeless, People of Ukraine, People of Palestine/Israel, Our Nation's leaders, Mt. Cross, St. Stephen's Child Development Ctr, S.S. Senior Housing, Pastor Jim & Our Church Family, men &

**Lenten Wednesdays
6:00 pm
(Worship 7:00pm)**



**Feb. 25
March 4, 11, 18 & 25**

2 Hosts need each evening.
Provide soup, bread /crackers & cookies.
Sign up now.

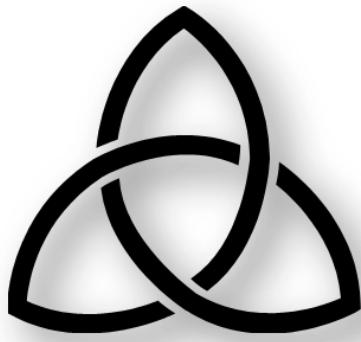
Other Giving Options

We are now able to receive donations made by:
credit card, debit card, PayPal, Venmo & Zelle.

There are three choices:

- 1) **Vanco**, our regular electronic giving provider;
- 2) **PayPal / Venmo / Zelle** for single one-time gifts;
- 3) **PayPal** with the possibility of recurring donations and an option to cover the fees. All are available at <https://ststephenslutheran.org>





Trinity Tuesday

(Pub Theology / Discussion)

February 3 at 6:30pm

(First Tuesday of the month)

Place: Discretion Brewing 2703 41st Ave.

1 HOUR

1 QUESTION
(3-in-1)

1 DRINK

Join us for an evening of honest conversation and genuine community. Bring your questions about faith, life, and everything in between. No question is off limits, and no judgment—just real talk in a relaxed atmosphere.

Whether you're a longtime member or exploring faith for the first time, pull up a chair and let's talk. All are welcome.

Previous discussions include: How do we see God? How are we called? Why do bad things happen to good people? Recognizing our God-given talents. How do we forgive?

**NOTE: We are gathering on the patio.
Please dress for the weather!**

Kathy Allen 430-6359 for more info.

Upcoming Events:

February Benevolence Offering = Association of Faith Communities Rotating Shelter & Safe Spaces

Feb. 3 Scouts 6:00 pm

Feb. 3 Trinity Tuesday 6:30 pm Discretion Brewery come for honest conversation and genuine community

Feb. 4 - Preschool Chapel 10:15 am
- Bible Study 7:30 pm

Feb. 5 - Womens Café 6:00 pm
- Men's A.A. 7:00 pm

Feb. 6 - Finance Committee 9:30 am
- A. A. Group 7:00 pm

Feb. 8 Scout Sunday—meet the troop & enjoy their treats

Feb. 10 Church Council 6:30 pm

Feb. 12 Women's Circle of Promise 10:30 am

Feb. 14 Embroider's Guild 10—4pm

Feb. 18 Lent begins: Ash Wednesday Worship 11 am & 7 pm

Feb. 25 Soup Suppers begins 6:00 pm
Sign up now

Feb. 25 Taize Service 7:00 pm (after soupper)

Feb. 26 Newsletter Collating 2:00 pm

Pastor's Office Hours Wednesdays 10 to 1:00

Our Mission Statement

St. Stephen's is a welcoming, healing community who worship God in Christ, nurture people growing in faith, serve others with acceptance and love, invite people to share the joy of the spirit.

Reconciling in Christ

"We welcome all who are seeking God's love and grace. We welcome all because God welcomes all, regardless of race or culture, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, or relationship status.

We welcome all without regard to addictions, physical or mental health, imprisonment, socio-economic circumstances, or anything that too often divides us. Our unity is in Christ."

St. Stephen's Lutheran Church E.L.C.A.
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Web Address: www.ststephenslutheran.org
Office Hours: Mon.—Friday. 12:00 —5:00 pm

Ministers: The People of St. Stephen's
Pastor: Rev. James P. Lapp
Church Administrator: Leslie Lapp
Church Musician: Gary Roberts
Sunday School: Leslie Lapp
Pre-School Director: Kathy Berens
Custodian: John Hopping
Videographers: Jay Johnston, Kent Madsen & Barb Rice

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